



PATENT

Attorney Docket Number: 03-31-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

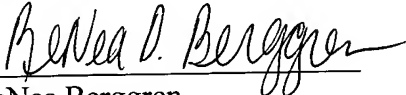
In re Application of : Smith, J. et al.
Serial Number : 10/603,280
Confirmation Number: 4443
Filed : June 25, 2003
For : Plate Joiner

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in a First Class envelope, with sufficient postage thereon, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO BOX 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.


ReNea Berggren

Date: October 3, 2003

Sir:

Entry of the Amendment below is respectfully requested. While it is believed that no fees are necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to grant any needed extension of time and to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4882.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.
Amendments to the Drawings are reflected on page 3 of this paper.
A substitute specification is included. No new matter is added.